



BONHOMME RICHARD'S ALMANAC

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I have not yet begun to fight!"



AIR BOS'N CHOSE NAVY AS A CAREER

Story and Photo by J01(SW) Robert W. Garnand

Chief Warrant Officer Lee Risper, of St. Louis, Mo., went to college for one year before deciding it wasn't for him. That's when he decided to join the Navy, make a living for himself and support his family.

Since enlisting in the Navy as an Aviation Boatswain's Mate, Risper moved up through the ranks to become an Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Aircraft Handling) Chief.

But there was still more he wanted to do.

"Once I made Chief Petty Officer I decided to better myself, so I decided to try to go to the officer ranks," Risper said. "The advantage of going to the officer ranks was

having more of a say in how the way things are done in the Navy. It would give me a better chance to speak about those changes because I would be in a better position to address the chain of command."

Risper did move on to become an officer. "I submitted my package for the Warrant Officer program just once," he said. And now he is the Air Bos'n onboard USS BONHOMME RICHARD (LHD 6).

Risper already has goals set for his future after the Navy. "I look forward to retiring and then becoming a Physical Education teacher," he said. "I would like to

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ELECTRONIC TAX FILING GAINS POPULARITY

By Richelle Turner-Collins

Last year, within the 1st Infantry Division (ID) military community, an estimated 12,000 ID cardholder's, out of a possible 60,000, electronically filed their taxes. Tax officials expect that number to rise this tax season.

If you electronically file your taxes between Feb 25 and March 2, your refund will be directly deposited into your account by March 10. If you mail in your tax document during that time, the IRS will mail out the check March 17, according to an IRS fact sheet. The quick turn-

around for electronic filing means more soldiers are opting to do it.

Tax officials agree on the accuracy of electronic filing. The average error rate for a paper return is 21 percent, yet the average error rate for an electronically filed return is less than one percent, said Stephen W. Smith, Chief of Legal Assistance for the 1st Infantry Division.

In 1994, the local 1st ID tax center filed less than 2,000 returns electronically. In the first two weeks of this month, they had already filed 2,941 electronically.

C A M P A I G N 2000

DEMOCRATS SQUARE OFF

By Associated Press

The two Democratic presidential candidates have squared off in a lively New York City debate.

The 90-minute forum at the Apollo Theatre, the famed Harlem landmark, focused on racial and urban issues.

Vice President Al Gore accused rival Bill Bradley of using attack tactics that "divide us as democrats." Bradley, meantime, claimed that Mr. Gore is a closet conservative, saying he was a "poster boy" for gun control opponents while he served in congress.

The two also promised to take steps against racial profiling if elected to the White House, then immediately tried to turn the question against each other.

Bradley demanded to know why Vice President Gore hadn't gotten President Clinton to issue an executive order outlawing racial profiling. Mr. Gore shot back that racial profiling practically began in Bradley's New Jersey.

THE REPUBLICAN RACE IS ON

By Associated Press

The latest polls show Bush and McCain in a dead heat. The two main rivals have been stumping through various parts of the state. Bush has tried to avoid mentioning McCain's name during speeches, although he's the focus of Bush's ads. That's led McCain to claim that the Bush ads are nothing more than character assassinations.

Bush plans to attend what he hopes will be a victory rally Tuesday evening in Southfield, in the Detroit area, before he stops in Kansas City en route to California.

On Monday night, McCain flew to his home state, Arizona, which also holds its primary on Tuesday. He told the one-thousand supporters who greeted him at a Tucson rally that they can expect a "Double victory" come Tuesday night.

* THURSDAY'S TV SCHEDULE *

CHANNEL 2

1100 DROP DEAD GORGEOUS
1630 LETTERMAN
1730 JEOPARDY
1800 STAR TREK: VOYAGER
1900 X-FILES
2000 SWITCHBACK
2200 G.I. JANE

CHANNEL 6

1100 HOPE FLOATS
1630 SHADOW CONSPIRACY
1800 LOVE JONES
2000 PLATOON
2200 BLAIR WITCH PROJECT

BONHOMME RICHARD'S ALMANAC

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Lt. Cmdr. Laurie Rye, Public Affairs Officer

JOC(SW/AW) Stephen K. Robinson, Asst. Public Affairs Officer

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N ATIONAL / INTERNATIONAL NEWS

TWO MARINES FACE CHARGES

By The Associated Press

Two Marines face charges of assault and dereliction of duty in connection with the hazing of a private, a Marine Corps spokesman said.

Another 10 Marines face less severe administrative discipline for not stopping the alleged hazing of the 20-year-old Marine. The private reported that he was being terrorized by his squad leader, Staff Sgt. Bob Hall said.

The names of the Marines involved were not released. All are members of the 2nd Battalion, 7th Marine Barracks at the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center in Twentynine Palms.

The incident was reported in December. The private who reported the alleged hazing told authorities that fellow Marines used a knife to cut his T-shirt from waist to throat during an inspection, slammed him against a locker and forced him to do push-ups while another Marine held his foot against the private's neck.

ENDEAVOR IS COMING HOME

By Associated Press

After a steady improvement in the weather, NASA has cleared shuttle Endeavour for a landing at the Kennedy Space Center. NASA managers had been worried about a stiff crosswind at the three-mile-long runway. But the winds died down just enough for managers to give Endeavour a "go" to light the shuttle's engines for the ride home. Scientists are eager to retrieve critical data the shuttle recorded in orbit. Using a space radar, astronauts scanned 47 million square miles of the Earth's land surface to create the most accurate map of the planet ever made.

FASTER IS NOT ALWAYS BETTER

By Associated Press

The need for speed when it comes to Internet connections at home may also work to the benefit of those who have less-than-honorable intentions for your computers. Experts are warning that digital subscriber lines and cable modems may make your home computer vulnerable to hackers. There are about 2.2 million homes that have the high-speed connections. They're vulnerable because the devices are connected to the Internet as long as the computer is turned on. This gives hackers an even wider window of opportunity to hack into such a system. An official with Excite-At-Home says there are people out there who search through Internet addresses to look for machines that are connected, and try to take advantage of security holes in the systems.

HOSPITALS MAKING MISTAKES

By Associated Press

Hospitals may be forced to report every serious or fatal mistake if a new White House plan is approved by Congress.

President Clinton plans to unveil the plan Tuesday. It comes in response to a report last year that medical mix-ups kill as many as 98-thousand Americans each year.

The White House wants a mandatory national reporting program. Each state would have to collect information about preventable deaths and major injuries by hospitals and the type of problem.

The plan is seen as a compromise between patients, who want full disclosure of medical mistakes, and doctors and hospitals who fear more disclosure means more lawsuits.

NAVY WEIGHS NEW WEAPON

By Richard J. Newman

It was a breathless few months for the USS Miami (SSN-755). While on patrol in the Mediterranean Sea in November of 1998, the attack submarine was ordered to speed to the Persian Gulf to prepare for Operation Desert Fox, the four-day bombing campaign against Iraq.

Once there, it fired more than 20 \$750,000 Tomahawk cruise missiles into Saddam Hussein's fiefdom. Then, with war looming in Kosovo, Miami sprinted back to the Med, where it picked up a new load of Tomahawks. It quickly steamed into the Adriatic, where it shot its missiles again last spring during the early days of the war against Yugoslavia. The back-to-back barrages made Miami the most accomplished Tomahawk shooter in the Navy's submarine force.

By converting four soon-to-retire ballistic-missile submarines—the "boomers" that carry long-range nuclear missiles—into Tomahawk cannons, the Navy could produce a stealth weapon system that on its own could "take down a country for a week," says one advocate. The bristling sub—known as an SSGN—would put hundreds more Tomahawks at sea and free up the thinly spread Navy fleet for other missions.

On SSGNs, the huge Trident nuclear missiles in 40-foot-deep tubes would be replaced by cylinders containing seven Tomahawks apiece. Each sub's 154 cruise missiles would amount to three quarters as many as were fired into Yugoslavia—by 10 ships—during the entire war last year.

EARN A BACHELORS OR MASTERS DEGREE IN INTELLIGENCE

By Tom Van Wagner

The Joint Military Intelligence College (JMIC) continues to offer the best intelligence education in the world. JMIC programs include the newly approved Bachelor's of Science in Intelligence (BSI) degree and the Master of Science of Strategic Intelligence (MSSI).

These programs are open to all Navy enlisted personnel who hold current TS/CI clearances. Enlisted personnel interested in attending should talk to their detailer.

RAINING IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

By Associated Press

Forecasters say there's more rain in store for waterlogged Southern California. Another storm is expected to hit the Region Tuesday night, following two days of record rainfall.

The storm flooded streets, triggered small mudslides and spawned heavy surf and damaging winds. Despite light traffic because of the Presidents Day holiday, the California highway patrol officials reported more than 400 accidents by late afternoon, twice the normal volume.

A funnel cloud was reported in Anaheim, where 25 homes were damaged. Between early Sunday and Monday afternoon, Santa Barbara recorded more than four inches of rain. One weather station in the San Gabriel Mountains reported more than six inches.

**PRESIDENT CLINTON GRANTS A
PARDON AFTER 38 YEARS**

By Philip Shenon

President Clinton granted a pardon today to a 63-year-old political scientist who went into self-imposed exile almost four decades ago after his draft board in Georgia, learning that he was black, refused to address him as "mister."

The pardon for the man, Preston King, a professor at the University of Lancaster in Britain, overturns Mr. King's 1961 conviction for draft evasion and allows him to return to the United States for the funeral of his oldest brother later this week.

Mr. King had said at the time of his conviction that he was willing to report for an Army physical and serve in the military so long as the draft board in Albany, Ga., referred to him as "Mr. King" instead of "Preston."

The board, which had used "mister" in earlier correspondence to Mr. King but stopped after its members learned of his skin color, refused. Mr. King was convicted of draft evasion by an all-white jury and sentenced to 18 months in prison. He fled the country while out on bail.

Among those who had recently called for a pardon was the trial judge in the case, William A. Bootle of Federal District Court in Macon, Ga. In a letter to President Clinton last year, Judge Bootle, who is now in his 90's, said Mr. King had "followed his conscience just as Rosa Parks had followed hers."

NAVY CAREER from Page 1



Chief Warrant Officer Lee Risper, of St. Louis, Mo., went to college for one year before deciding it wasn't for him. That's when he decided to join the Navy, make a living for himself and support his family.

coach football or softball as well.

"I love teaching and training young people and that's what I do now," said Risper. "I can take the training I've received and use it to teach when I leave the Navy. Today I train my Sailors to be physically fit for anything that can happen and so as a Physical Education teacher I can stress how important it is to be physically fit and ready for anything that happens at any given time."

With February being African American History Month, Risper said "It's great to have a month where we can share our heritage with other people." He went on to say, "It's great to be in a country where we can share our heritage with others as well as share the culture of other nationalities. I hope everyone onboard, as well as in America, has a happy African American History Month and enjoys our heritage too."

SPORTS

ABDUL-JABBAR RETURNS FROM NBA'S LIST OF MISSING PERSONS

By Dave Anderson

When the Los Angeles Clippers were being introduced at the Garden in New York Monday, you heard, "the assistant coaches, Kareem Abdul-Jabbar. . . ." And there he was near the bench, holding a clipboard, standing tall and slim in a gray double-breasted suit.

After having been the 7-foot-2-inch center of gravity on six National Basketball Association championship teams, a six-time winner of the most valuable player award and the career scoring leader with a total of 38,387 points and another 5,762 in the playoffs, he had all but disappeared from the NBA planet.

Suddenly last Friday, the Clippers hired him. By joining the Clippers at age 52 as an assistant (along with Dennis Johnson) to Jim Todd, the recently appointed head coach, Abdul-Jabbar was obviously willing to start at the bottom.

HICKMAN DIES AT AGE 88

By Associated Press

Former Louisville hoops coach Peck Hickman died over the weekend at age 88. Hickman's Cardinals won the 1956 NIT and earned a spot in the 1959 NCAA final four.

UCONN STILL TOP TEAM

By Associated Press

Connecticut continues to be the top team in the Associated Press women's basketball poll. The Huskies are followed by Tennessee, Georgia, Louisiana Tech and Notre Dame.

NEW ZEALAND EXTENDS CUP LEAD

By Associated Press

Black Magic, the New Zealand defender, scored an overwhelming victory Tuesday over Luna Rossa, the Italian challenger, and took a 2-0 lead in the 30th America's Cup. Behind all the way because of a vexing move at the start by the New Zealand skipper, Russell Coutts, the Italians never caught up as New Zealand, trying to become the first country other than the United States to defend the cup, won by 2 minutes 43 seconds. Race 3 in the best-of-9 series is scheduled for Thursday.

NHL SCORES

| | | | |
|------------|---|--------------|---|
| Washington | 1 | Carolina | 1 |
| Detroit | 2 | NY Islanders | 0 |
| Ottawa | 4 | Florida | 2 |
| Buffalo | 3 | New Jersey | 2 |
| Tampa Bay | 2 | Pittsburgh | 1 |
| Nashville | 5 | Dallas | 2 |
| Edmonton | 6 | LA Kings | 3 |
| St. Louis | 4 | Anaheim | 2 |
| Vancouver | 5 | Boston | 2 |

NBA SCORES

| | | | |
|-----------|-----|-------------|-----|
| NY Knicks | 87 | LA Clippers | 76 |
| Indiana | 94 | Dallas | 93 |
| Cleveland | 109 | Vancouver | 108 |
| Detroit | 95 | Miami | 87 |
| Phoenix | 98 | San Antonio | 89 |
| Utah | 96 | Atlanta | 94 |
| Denver | 123 | Sacramento | 117 |
| Portland | 105 | Boston | 92 |

MEN'S TOP-25 NCAA

| | | | |
|------------------|----|-----------|----|
| (10)Oklahoma St. | 84 | Missouri | 72 |
| St. John's | 79 | (22)UConn | 64 |
| (25)Utah | 96 | UNLV | 52 |

WOMEN'S TOP-25 NCAA

| | | | |
|---------|----|---------|----|
| (9)DUKE | 59 | CLEMSON | 44 |
|---------|----|---------|----|